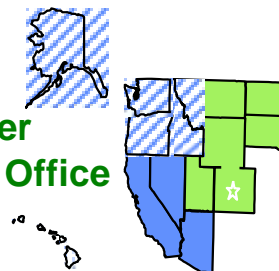




U.S. Army Environmental Center Western Regional Environmental Office

REGION X - DECEMBER 1999



WESTERN REGION REVIEW

This publication provides current information on significant regulatory developments and related information in the Federal Region X area (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) that affect U.S. Army activities and operations. We appreciate your feedback and encourage suggestions for future discussion, or comments. Please contact us at U.S. Army Environmental Center, Western Regional Environmental Office, ATTN: SFIM-AEC-WR, Building 111, Commerce City, CO 80022-2108, commercial (303) 289-0125, DSN: 749-2125, FAX: (303) 289-0272.

REGIONAL UPDATES/ALERTS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET

Current and past issues of the *WESTERN REGION REVIEW* for Regions VIII, IX, and X are available on the Internet at <http://aec-www.apgea.army.mil:8080/prod/usaec/ro/western/updates/wupdates.htm>.

FEDERAL REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

Air Quality • Under the Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) program, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently listed additional acceptable substitutes for ozone-depleting substances (ODS). The new substances include Hydrofluoroether (HFE-7200) as an alternative for CRC-11 and methyl chloroform (MCF) in all solvents cleaning end-uses. The EPA notice also includes materials or compounds that would be suitable replacements in refrigeration & air conditioning, foam blowing, and aerosol solvent end-uses. The full text of this notice can be found on the web at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-AIR/1999/December/Day-06/a31544.htm>, and for more information, please contact Kelly Davis at (202) 564-2303 or by email at davis.kelly@epa.gov.

Brownfields • On 06 December 1999, the Clinton Administration announced its intention to expand the Brownfields Showcase Communities initiative to include 10 additional U.S. cities. The Showcase Communities are eligible to receive Administration-wide assistance and coordinated technical support for environmental cleanup and economic revitalization. Over the last two years, EPA has increased the expenditures for addressing brownfield issues by more than 50 percent to over \$126 million total. The General Services Administration obligated \$1 million to fund environmental assessment on federally owned properties. For additional information on the brownfields initiative or a copy of the *Brownfields National Partnership Action Agenda Accomplishments Report* visit the EPA's web site at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>.

Lead & Lead Compounds • The comment period on the proposed rulemaking to lower the thresholds for lead and lead compounds is scheduled to end on 16 December 1999. The proposed rulemaking has been written as a follow-up to the persistent bioaccumulative toxics proposed rule that was published on 05 January of this year. Lead and lead compounds are currently subject to reporting under section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). The proposed rule would not only lower the reporting thresholds but it would also provide for a limitation on the reporting of lead when contained in certain alloys. Written comments must be received by the EPA on or before 16 December 1999 and should be marked with the docket control number OPPTS-400140. For further information on this rulemaking please contact Daniel R. Bushman at (202) 260-3882 or by email at bushman.daniel@epa.gov.

Superfund • The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently published a public notice announcing that the agency is now accepting proposals for the Superfund Redevelopment Pilot Program until 10 March 2000. The aim of the EPA is to select pilot projects that will support local governments and promote their involvement in the decision-making process by encouraging them to assist EPA in determining future land use for Superfund sites. A full text of the notice is available on the web at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WASTE/1999/December/Day-10/t32078.htm>, and more information is available by contacting Anne Hodge with the Office of Emergency and Remedial Response at (800) 424-9346.

Toxic Substances • A notice has been released by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announcing the availability of data collected from public comments on the disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Sample data is available on the maximum PCB concentrations found in a variety of materials, including adhesive tape, anti-fouling compounds, caulking, coal-tar enamel coatings, dried paint, fiberglass insulation, fire retardant coatings, floor wax/sealant, foam rubber insulation, plastics, roofing material, thermal insulation, and waterproofing compounds. The notice also solicits public comments on the potential risks of exposure to PCBs as well as the concentration of PCBs found in specific non-liquid PCB (NLPCB) applications. The comment submission deadline is 07 July 2000. The notice in its entirety can be viewed on the web at <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-TOX/December/Day-10/t32079.htm>. Inquiries on this notice may be directed to Christine Augustyniak with the Office of Pollution Prevention & Toxics at (202) 554-1404.

Water Quality • The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently submitted a Report to Congress, which was required according to EPA's fiscal year 2000 appropriations, prior to promulgation of the new Phase II storm water regulations. Full text of the EPA report is available on the web at <http://www.epa.gov/owm/sw/phase2>. Written comments on the new report are being accepted until close of business on 07 January 2000. For more information on the report or details on submitting comments, please contact George Utting with the Office of Wastewater Management at (202) 260-9530 or by email at sw2@epamail.epa.gov.

Water Quality • On 08 December 1999, a final rule was issued which would expand the existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) storm water program (Phase I) to also apply to storm water discharges from small municipal separate storm sewer systems and construction sites that interfere with one and five acres. A small municipal storm sewer system is defined as one that serves less than 100,000 persons. The rule does provide for the exclusion of certain sources from the national program based upon a demonstrated lack of impact on water quality. Under the final rule, storm water discharges from industrial facilities that have "no exposure" of industrial activities or materials to storm water are also allowed an exemption. This effective date for this regulation is 07 February 2000. For more information, please contact George Utting with the Office of Wastewater Management at (202) 260-5816 or by email at sw2@epa.gov.

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUMS

Affirmative Procurement Implementation Seminar

The U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM) Ground Water and Solid Waste Program is available to provide a one-day seminar on affirmative procurement at the installation or army activity level. The course is geared toward individuals in the procurement, contracting, environmental and logistics fields credit card holders and product users. Seminar topics include:

(1) affirmative procurement requirements and Executive Order 13101; (2) whom it applies to; (3) what items are included; (4) who is tracking all this and how; (5) achieving compliance -- what EPA will be looking for; (6) importance of buying recycled -- why it makes sense; (7) environmentally preferable purchasing; (8) balancing costs and benefits; (9) toxic reductions; (10) recycled content; (11) energy savings; (12) safety; (13) disposal; (14) quality of product; (15) how the FAR incorporates affirmative procurement; and (16) how to write contracts to include affirmative procurement and recycling

requirements. For further information, please contact John Bauer with CHPPM at (410) 436-2024, DSN 584-2024 or by e-mail at john.bauer@apg.amedd.army.mil.

Water Reuse 2000 • San Antonio, Texas • 30 January – 02 February 2000

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is cosponsoring Water Reuse 2000 in San Antonio on 30 January-02 February 2000. Currently, the agency is soliciting abstracts to cover all aspects of water reuse, including: (1) agricultural reuse applications; (2) dual distribution system design & operation; (3) cross-connection control; (4) disinfection; (5) public outreach & education; (6) environmental enhancement through reuse; (7) health effects & risk assessment; (8) industrial reuse applications; (9) indirect potable reuse; (10) urban irrigation applications; (11) golf courses & parks; (12) regional program planning; (13) project economics, pricing, financing, rate setting & capital funding; (14) regulatory & institutional issues; (15) research projects; (16) reclaimed water treatment technologies; (17) innovative urban reuse applications; (18) toilets, car washes & graywater systems; and (19) water quality issues. For further information please contact Lynda Pumphrey at (303) 347-6203 or by email at lpumphre@awwa.org. More information is also available on the web at <http://www.awwa.org/00reuse/call/overview/htm>.

Pollution Prevention Operations & Management – Satellite Broadcast Course

The Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) Civil Engineer & Services School is offering a 5-day Pollution Prevention Program Operations & Management course (course #ENV 022) on both 27-31 March 2000 and 17-21 July 2000. The course is designed to emphasize pollution prevention concepts such as source reduction of hazardous & toxic chemicals, solvent substitutions, reuses & recycling, process changes, and environmental awareness. Additionally, the course introduces management techniques that can be utilized to implement a sound pollution prevention program, including: (a) establishing & running the program; (b) conducting pollution prevention opportunity assessments; (c) implementing process changes to incorporate pollution prevention; (d) assessing pollution prevention program success; and (e) establishing awareness training. For further information please contact AFIT/CEA at (937) 255-2156, DSN 786-2156. Additional details on this course and others offered by the AFIT Civil Engineer & Services School can be obtained on the web at <http://cess.afit.af.mil>. Also, it is important to note that this course is only offered through satellite broadcast, and registration closes 40 days prior to the broadcast.

HAZMAT 2000 Spills Prevention Conference • St. Louis, Missouri • 04 – 06 April 2000

This U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conference is being held at the Regal Riverfront Hotel in St. Louis on 04-06 April 2000. It will offer the most up-to-date information on chemical accident prevention, counter-terrorism & special event planning, risk communication, CHER-CAP, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), integrated contingency plans, ammonia refrigeration awareness training, and CAMEO (Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations) training. For additional information call (703) 934-3760 or email hazmat2000@nrt.org. Or access more details on the web at <http://www.nrt.org/hazmat2000>.

The UXO/Countermines Forum • Anaheim, California • 02 – 04 May 2000

The UXO Forum and the Countermines Symposium to examine the technologies, issues, and policies surrounding the UXO/Countermines arena will be held at the Anaheim Marriot on 02-04 May 2000. Abstracts are currently being solicited on the following topics: detection, clearance, disposal, active range clearance policy, and environmental security policy. For details on submitting abstracts and additional information on the conference please call Jeff Purdy at (703) 704-2784 or by email at TheForum@nvl.army.mil.

Real World Air Conference & Exhibition • Atlanta, Georgia • 15 – 18 May 2000

The U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) and the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (CHPPM) are partnering to conduct the second Real World Air Conference on 15-18 May 2000 in Atlanta. The conference's objective is to address air pollution issues that currently affect federal facilities. For further information please contact Sherri Hutchens at (410) 436-8149 or by email at sherri.hutchens@apg.amedd.army.mil or Rochelle Williams at (410) 464-7695 or by email at williario@forscom.army.mil. Additional information on the conference can be found on the web at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/air/airconf/conf.htm>.

ALASKA***Legislative Developments***

Legislative Calendar • The Alaska State Legislature is scheduled to reconvene on 10 January 2000.

Regulatory Developments

Waste • Oil Discharge Prevention • Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is currently reviewing the application for renewal of the Valdez Marine Terminal Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan. Public hearings on the issue were held in November, and the plan is currently being examined for compliance with requirements governing oil discharge prevention and contingency plans as well as consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. The plan addresses the obligation of sufficient resources to contain, control, and cleanup a possible maximum discharge from the operations of the facility. Public comments on the renewal application must be received at the Department no later than 10 January 2000. Additional information is available by contacting B. Friedman at the Joint Pipeline Office at (907) 271-5070 or by email at bfriedma@jpo.doi.gov.

IDAHO***Legislative Developments***

Legislative Calendar • The Idaho State Legislature is scheduled to reconvene on 10 January 2000.

Regulatory Developments

No significant regulatory actions have developed during this reporting period.

OREGON***Legislative Developments***

Legislative Calendar • The Oregon State Legislature is biennial. The State's next regular legislative session is scheduled to begin in January 2001.

Regulatory Developments

No significant regulatory actions have developed during this reporting period.

WASHINGTON***Legislative Developments***

Legislative Calendar • The Washington State Legislature is scheduled to reconvene on 10 January 2000.

Regulatory Developments

Hazardous Waste • The Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) is proposing a regulation as a corrective revision to the Model Toxics Control Act, which governs the cleanup of hazardous waste sites. This amendment is necessary to carry out the recommendations of the DOE's Policy Advisory Committee to create a more effective rule to protect the environment as well as human health. The proposed language provides the DOE with the authority to establish cleanup standards that are, at a minimum, as stringent as the federal cleanup and health-related standards. Public hearings on this proposal will be held in Vancouver on 09 December 1999, in Seattle on 14 December 1999, in Spokane on 15 December 1999, and in Yakima on 16 December 1999. Written comments may be submitted until 17 January 2000. For further information, please contact Trish Akana at (360) 407-7230.

Solid Waste • Recycling • Washington's Department of Ecology (DOE) has announced its intentions to develop revisions to Chapter 173-304 WAC regarding minimum functional standards for solid waste handling. The substantive language of the regulation has not been revised since 1985, therefore it is clearly necessary to update approaches to waste management and related technologies. In the course of these changes, the DOE will consider attaching a legislative mandate to eliminate impediments to recycling. At this time, an external advisory group has convened to assist the DOE in developing a formal proposal. No other action has been scheduled at this time; however, for more information please contact Mike Hibbler at (509) 456-2947.

Toxic Chemicals • Recently, it has been reported that the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) has undertaken the task of developing a Strategy on Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Chemicals (PBTs). The primary objective of the strategy will be to prevent PBTs from being produced or discharged in new sources by the year 2005; prevent PBTs in existing sources by 2020; and control discharges from cleanup sites by 2025. The proposed strategy will concentrate on voluntary incentives, education, pollution prevention, and enforcement rather than developing new regulations. Nevertheless, the option to write new regulations will be left on the table as such action may become necessary to achieve the above targeted goals. At this time, the DOE hopes to release a formal strategy, which will be followed by a public comment period, in early 2000. For further information, please contact Mike Gallagher at (360) 407-6868.